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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Port Information: Gdansk

PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE)

DATE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE) 25X1A

DATE (OF INFO.)

RESPONSIVE TO	
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DATE DISTR. 27 Jul 1954

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SOURCE British merchant mariner. Officer on a ship which called at Gdansk, Poland, from 2-11 Apr 54 to unload fluorspar and magnetite iron ore.

The Navy interviewing officer assigned an evaluation of "F-2" to the report and stated that source was affable and very cooperative.

/THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CIA FOR IAC DISSEMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 c OF USCID #7 (DIO, 8ND No 99-54)./

1. The following information is based on personal observations of the source.

2. Alphabetical Designators In connection with information reported herein, specific points of interest are noted on photograph of HO Chart 4008 by the following alphabetical designators:

   A. Course Line of Approach
   B. Anchorage
   C. Course Line to Hafen Kanal
   D. Berth
   E. Coal Dock
   F. Sentry Tower
   G. Sentry Tower
   H. Turning Area
   I. Neufahrwasser Buoy

3. Dates of Call and Conveyance Source visited subject port 2-11 Apr 54 in a 7256 grt, 423' 9" length, and 27' 9-1/4" draft merchant freighter. Maximum loaded draft allowed in port is 27' 11".

4. Cargo Vessel carried inbound cargo of 3574 tons fluorspar and 6380 tons magnetite iron ore in bulk from Tsingtao, China, and departed in ballast for Kiel, Germany. Cargo was partially unloaded into railroad cars for transshipment to Czechoslovakia and partially stockpiled on the wharf.

5. Weather Average temperature during period of call was 38°F, wind was southerly at force 2, and weather was clear except when a misty rain fell on the day of arrival.

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SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODES

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6. Anchorage Vessel followed course line labeled designator A in reaching anchorage labeled designator B at 020735A Apr 54. Anchorage was good holding ground of sand.

7. Pilot Boat Port inspection party including doctor boarded vessel from pilot boat at 020900A Apr 54, and pilot boarded from same boat at 021100A Apr 54. Pilot boat was 40' in length, diesel-powered, and showed the pilot flag. Guards on board were armed with submachine guns.

8. Pilot Pilot spoke English and performed his work satisfactorily. No guards accompanied pilot aboard vessel nor maintained surveillance over him. Pilot advised source that vessel would be followed by a patrol craft in leaving port for a distance of several miles.

9. Berth Vessel reached berth at 021309A Apr 54 by course line labeled designator C to the Hafen Kanal. Berth labeled designator D at oreloading depot was where vessel unloaded cargo of fluorspar and magnetite iron ore.

10. Boarding Inspection Searching party of 20 men armed with submachine guns boarded vessel and began inspection at berth at 021700 A Apr 54 which lasted 2½ hours. No crew member accompanied party. Thorough inspection was conducted and firearms were sealed while crew remained in their cabins. Cameras and nautical instruments were not sealed. Searchers seemed most interested in finding propaganda material at inbound inspection and stowaways at outbound inspection. Members of the searching party evidenced low morale in perfunctory discharge of their duties, although those in charge exercised complete control. Vessel was cleared to commence unloading at 021950A Apr 54.

11. Cargo Handling Nine days were required to unload cargo; intermittent breakdowns in crane equipment and occasional stevedore shortages accounted for delay in unloading. Stevedore gangs were composed of 12 men working eight-hour shifts throughout 24 hours. Stevedore work was slow and poor. Cargo handling was by a bridge-transporter type crane unloading into railroad cars standing on three spurs beneath it. Two other similar cranes at the ore depot were broken down.

12. Lighters Lighters loaded with coal were tied up at coal docks labeled designator E.

13. Surveillance No surveillance was kept on pilot either in entering or leaving subject port. Three armed sentries were posted on wharf at bow, midship, and stern. A sentry armed with a submachine gun was stationed on each crane at the ore depot. Sentry towers overlooking the Hafen Kanal and wharf area were observed at designators F and G. Vessel was followed several miles by a patrol craft in leaving port.

14. Merchant Shipping Present A nine thousand ton Swedish merchant freighter was observed leaving port at time vessel was entering about 021200 A Apr 54. Numerous small coastal freighters were berthed along the Hafen Kanal.

15. Naval Activity Two Soviet naval tugs were assisting a newly built naval tender of approximately nine thousand tons in berthing at coal dock labeled designator E. No submarines or other naval craft were observed.

16. Liberty Ashore Crew members were issued cards by port authorities at time of boarding inspection which were shown by them to sentries on wharf when going ashore. No restrictions were placed on crew in going ashore.

17. Mail Censorship All incoming mail addressed to crew was examined by authorities allegedly to intercept currency, and all outgoing mail was posted unsealed.

18. Radio Radio silence was maintained in port.

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19. Photography No restriction was put on photography.

20. Departure Vessel departed subject port at 111500A Apr 54 after four-hour inspection. Vessel turned around in area of Hafen Kanal labeled designator H. Pilot was dropped at Neufahrwasser buoy labeled designator I.

/On file in CIA Library is photograph of HO Chart 4928 with appropriate alphabetical designators, referred to in the foregoing report.

Comment by Navy officer preparing report: It is noted that security provisions apparently have been somewhat relaxed in subject port in that no restriction is placed on the use of cameras./

- end -

LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

7-11/733.1	55M(CL)
7-11/734.10	55M(CL)
7-12/733.1	IL/C(PM)
7-12/734.10	IL/C(PM)
756.545	55M
756.547	55M
756.541	55M

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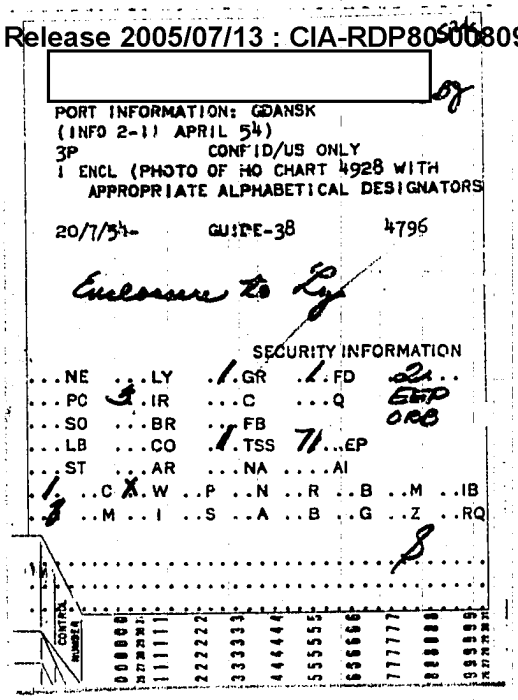
PORT INFORMATION: GDANSK
(INFO 2-11 APRIL 54)
3P CONFID/US ONLY
1 ENCL (PHOTO OF HO CHART 4928 WITH
APPROPRIATE ALPHABETICAL DESIGNATORS
20/7/54- GUIDE-38 4796
Enclosure to Ltr
SECURITY INFORMATION
...NE ...LY .1.GR .1.FD
...PC 3.IR ...C ...Q
...SO ...BR ..1.FB
...LB ...CO .1.TSS 71...EP
...ST ...AR ...NA ....AI
1. ..C X.W ..P ..N ..R ..B ..M ..IB
3 ..M ..I ..S ..A ..B ..G ..Z ..RQ

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